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17394
October 24, 1962
6:48 p.m.

Lima

487, October 24, 4 p.m.

DEPARTMENT PASS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Foreign Minister handed me copy letter from Junta President General Ricardo Perez Godoy to President Kennedy. Compressed text in translation follows:

"Your letter concerning grave threat to hemispheric security which Soviet strategic weapons installations in Cuba represents has been delivered to me personally by Charge d'Affairs Henderson. Shortly thereafter I heard your important radio message.

The realistic and decisive way with which you faced this problem in all its magnitude has made a strong impression on me and on the Peruvian Government. From your statements and from our own information, we can appreciate the gravity of the situation for the entire world and especially for America.

By tradition and geographic situation Peru is western democratic country whose security and integrity are now menaced by this imminent Soviet aggression. Peru is a loyal friend of the US and of the other countries of this continent as has been demonstrated in various critical occasions, and is sincere supporter greatest possible inter-American cooperation.

In confirmation of this GOP has decided instruct its representative to COAS vote favorably for immediate convocation of meeting of Organ of Consultation of Inter-American System in accordance with Rio treaty.

GOP has similarly instructed Ambassador Belaunde. President

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-2- 487, October 24, 4 p.m. from Lima

of Peruvian delegation to General Assembly of UN that in close coordination with Ambassador Stevenson and with other delegates of friendly countries, he should support in decisive form with voice and vote continental position concerning withdrawal of Soviet bases from Cuba in conditions described.

GOP is studying ways in which competent Peruvian military authorities shall establish adequate contact with North American colleagues order explore possibility intimate cooperation with other hemispheric forces in this crisis.

GOP will take appropriate steps inform public opinion opportunely position which it has assumed in fulfillment its international obligations as well as in defence peace of America and security of Peru".

Signed original will be forwarded Peruvian Ambassador Washington for delivery.

HENDERSON

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